

-9-

What is Claimed is:

1. A method for identifying multiple home networks each having a plurality of home appliances connected to respective adapters and a network controller, and at least two home networks share one communication line, the method comprising the

5 steps of:

setting a house code to each of adapters to the home appliances for identifying home networks;

receiving a packet including the house code on the communication line at the adapters, and comparing a preset house code to the house code included in the packet;

10 and

one of the adapters understanding that the packet is directed to the one of the adapters if the two house codes are in conformity as a result of the comparison, and transferring the packet to one of the home appliances connected thereto.

15 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of setting a house code includes the step of;

putting a house code setting program into operation in the network controller,

providing a serial number of the adapter and making access to a house code managing site on the Internet in the program,

-10-

receiving an own house code assigned from the house code managing site
and transferring to a relevant adapter, and

the adapter storing the house code to a relevant memory region.

5 3. A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step of providing a serial
number of the adapter and making access to a house code managing site on the
Internet in the program includes the step of making an automatic access to the house
code managing site once the serial number for the adapter is provided.

10 4. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of the adapters
disregarding the received packet if the two house codes are not in conformity as the
result of comparison.

15

20